

# WOODWORDS ON THE BRANDYWINE

*Woodworkers Guild of Delaware*

*Volume 17, No. 3*

*November, 2005*

## **About Dues:**

Dues are \$35.00 per calendar year, and the dues for calendar 2006 are to be paid before December 31, 2005. Most members pay before December, which helps in planning and eases the work of the Treasurer. Please pay at the November meeting, and thanks in advance for your promptness.

## **October 19, 2005 Meeting Highlights:**

This year the Guild continues its tradition of creating wooden tree ornaments and other holiday decorations in support of the Delaware Hospice Festival. (You've received a Guild postcard about that). The meeting opened with announcements and discussion on that project. Then scrollwork guru Joe Tomeo presented a short tutorial on making scrollwork ornaments of 1/8" and 1/4" Baltic Birch plywood (obtainable from Russell Plywood in New Castle), and shared copies of some suitable patterns. Many thanks to Joe for supporting this effort, and to Mike Reese for coordinating it within the Guild and with the Delaware Hospice. Please don't forget to bring your ornaments to the November 16 Guild meeting.

The theme of the meeting was cabinet face frames, with demonstrations of several methods of joining them. First Chuck Skelley showed us the fine points of joining 3/4" frames with 5/16" dowels, and explained some of the differences among older and newer dowel jigs. Chuck favors using fluted dowels that allow a little space for the glue, and showed us another way to do that by lightly touching up ordinary full-round dowels with a plane. Chuck reminded us not to create access problems for plumbers by building a centered stile under a sink or vanity

Roger Earley then demonstrated pocket screw joinery, using 3/4" lumber and a Rockler Kreg jig. This method works with lumber as light as 1/2" and involves special self-tapping flathead screws, with fine thread for hardwood and coarse thread for softwood. Roger also demonstrated joining face frames with biscuits. Number 0 biscuits, the smallest standard size, take a slot over 2" wide -- too wide to conceal completely in some frames -- but the drawback is minor because in most cases the cosmetic flaw is concealed by other components. For precise alignment it's important to cut all the slots from the same side of the frame -- all from the face side, or all from the interior side.

Don Ransom then showed us the fine points of joining frames using a short pinned tenon, after which John Dunbar demonstrated the loose tenon method. John showed us his shop-made jig for routing the mortises, which he does in shallow passes. His rule of thumb is not to cut any deeper than the width of the bit -- for a 1/4" bit, don't cut more than 1/4" of depth in one pass.

Thanks and kudos to Chuck, Roger, Don and John for first-rate presentations. Bob Darnell won the Raffle Prize, a Lee Valley Veritas Honing Guide.

### **November 16, 2005 Meeting Agenda:**

This meeting will have two major themes. First, members will present the tree ornaments and holiday decorations they have made for the Delaware Hospice Festival tree. Second, we will have Part I of a presentation by Jim Stephens on building a Windsor chair. Jim's exceptional craftsmanship is widely known and recognized – for instance, his work has been displayed at Winterthur, and he has given demonstrations there. Also, Rich Libera has promised to present a door jig that is rumored to be impressive, and your Editor expects to reveal the Mother of all Organizers.

As always, please bring "show and tell" items. Those who do will receive two FREE raffle tickets. This month's raffle prize will be a four piece Starrett combination square set.

### **Guild Member Launches Business:**

Jeanne Noblitt recently launched Guardsman FurniturePro (302-834-4359; cell 302-540-0569; e-mail WoodAndMore@aol.com), which offers onsite repair of wood and leather furniture and removal of fabric stains. Wood repairs include both structural and finish repairs, including regluing chairs and fixing dents, gouges and scratches (but not refinishing). Leather repairs include finish repairs, stain removal, repainting and fixing cuts, holes, burns and scrapes. Best of luck to Jeanne on her new venture.

### **Buying Opportunities:**

Jim Given (410-398-0010) offers an antique rosewood marble top washstand for \$200.00.

John Smock (302-239-9111) offers a complete set of Fine Woodworking magazine, issues 1 through current, for \$550.00.

### **Coming Events:**

The annual Woodworks show in Fort Washington PA is scheduled for December 9-11, 2005. For details visit [www.woodworks2003.com](http://www.woodworks2003.com), e-mail [jonathan@woodworksevents.com](mailto:jonathan@woodworksevents.com), fax to 310-393-1135 or call 301-917-4408.

### **Benefactors of the Guild:**

Several merchants, suppliers and restaurants have been generous in supporting the Guild; please keep these friends in mind when you make

purchases: Woodcraft, Highland Hardware, Lee Valley and Veritas, Café Gelato, Fair Hill Inn, Eagle Diner and Giordano's of Kennett Square.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Balance forward at 10/8/2005	1078.80
October Newsletter Expense	110.88-
October Raffle Income	58.00+
Dues Income	460.00+
Ending Balance at 10/20/2005	1485.92

By: Richard Libera, Treasurer

### **2005–06 Meeting Schedule:**

**Dates:** Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month of the school year, September through May; this year's remaining dates are: November 16, December 21, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19 and May 17. The Guild often has a June meeting, and normally does not meet in July and August.

**Place & Time:** During the school year we normally meet in the Carpenter Shop at Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Glasgow, DE. June meetings are elsewhere, and the April 2006 meeting will be at the Kalmar Nyckel shipyard. At Hodgson we meet from 7:00 pm to about 9:00 pm. Some arrive earlier, which is fine -- the shop is open to us around 6:00 pm. The school entrance is on **business** 896 (Glasgow Avenue, old 896) south of Rte. 40, and the shop is in the rear by the dust collection system. Park in the side lot near the shop; **violators of parking rules may be towed.** Whenever the school is closed due to weather, that evening's meeting is cancelled. Closings are broadcast by local radio stations and WDEL reports them online at [www.wdel.com](http://www.wdel.com), News Center, SnoWatch.

**Board Meetings:** The Board ordinarily meets immediately after each Guild meeting. Board Meetings are open to all Guild members.

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November, 2005

Woodworkers Guild of Delaware  
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**WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS FOR 2005-06**

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